**Amendments to the Claims:**

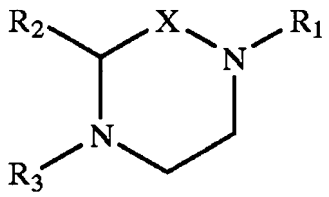
**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.**

**Please cancel claims 6, 7, 25, 26, 44, 45, 53 and 54 without prejudice or disclaimer of the recited subject matter therein.**

**Please amend claims 1, 3, 16 to 20, 22, 35 to 39, 41, 48, 50, 57 and 58 as indicated.**

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (currently amended): A compound having the structure:



(I)

or a stereoisomer or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein

**$R_1$** is $-L_1-J$ or, if X is $CH_2$, is H or $-L_1-J$;

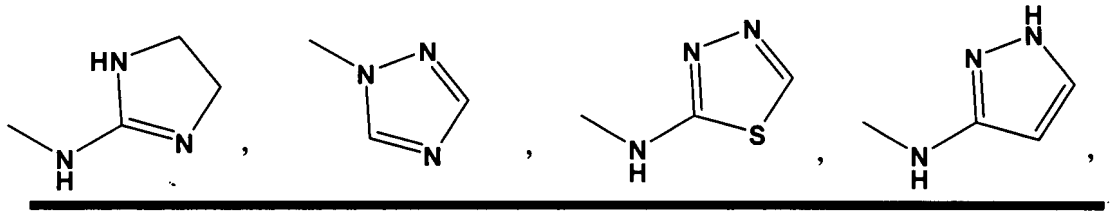
**$R_2$** is $(CH_2)_y-W$ or, if X is $CH_2$, is H or $-L_1-J$, on the proviso that ~~not~~ $R_1$ and $R_2$ are not both H;

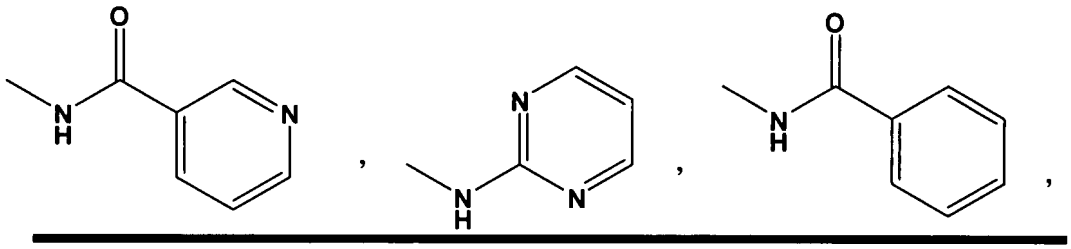
**$R_3$** is $-L_2-Q$;

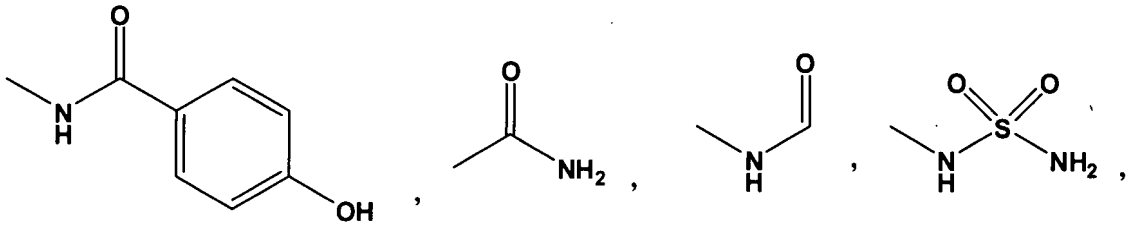
**$L_1$** is a linker selected from the group consisting of $-(CH_2)_y-$, $-O-(CH_2)_y-$, $-O-$, $-NH-(CH_2)_y-$, $-(C=O)(CH_2)_y-$, $-(C=O)-O-(CH_2)_y-$, and $-CH_2(C=O)NH;-$:

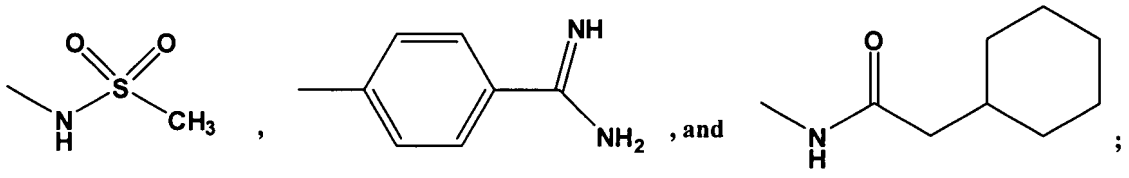
**J** is a ring structure selected from the group consisting of substituted or unsubstituted aromatic carbocyclic rings, substituted or unsubstituted non-aromatic carbocyclic rings, substituted or unsubstituted aromatic fused carbobicyclic ring groups, substituted or unsubstituted aromatic carbocyclic ring groups wherein the rings are joined by a bond or -O-, and substituted or unsubstituted aromatic fused heterobicyclic ring groups; wherein in each instance each ring in the ring structure consists of ~~the rings comprise~~ 5 or 6 ring atoms;

**W** is selected from the group consisting of $NH_2$, $NH(C{=}NH)NH_2$, $-NHCOCH_3$, $-CONHCH_3$, $-NH(C{=}NH)NHMe$, $-NH(C{=}NH)NHEt$, $-NH(C{=}NH)NHPr$, $-NH(C{=}NH)NHPr\text{-}I$, $-NH(C{=}NH)NH_2$, $-NH(C{=}O)OCH_3$, $-NH(C{=}O)CH_3$, $-NH(C{=}O)NH_2$, $-NH(C{=}O)NHCH_3$,



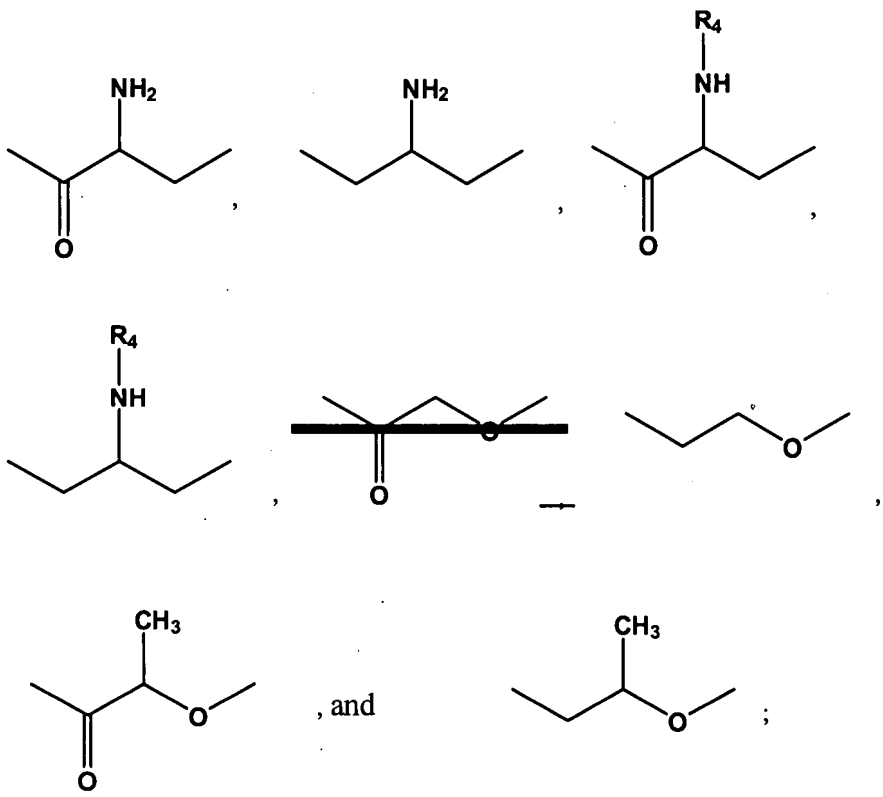






~~a heteroatom unit with at least one cationic center, hydrogen bond donor or hydrogen bond acceptor wherein at least one atom is N;~~

$L_2$ is a linker selected from the group consisting of




**Q** is an aromatic carbocyclic ring selected from the group consisting of phenyl, substituted phenyl, naphthyl and substituted naphthyl;

**$R_4$** is H, -$R_5$ or -$R_5$-$R_6$;

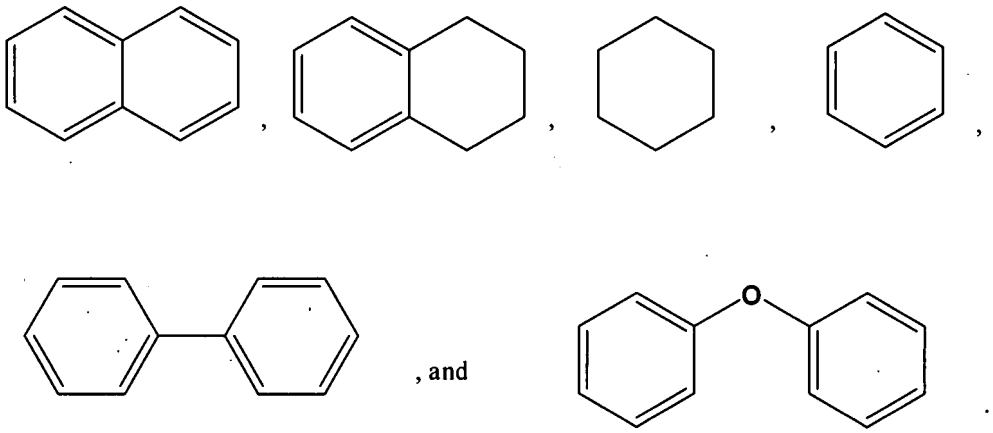
**$R_5$** is an amino acid residue or an amine capping group, provided that if $R_6$ is present, $R_5$ is an amino acid residue;

**$R_6$** is H or an amine capping group;

**X** is $CH_2$ or C=O; and

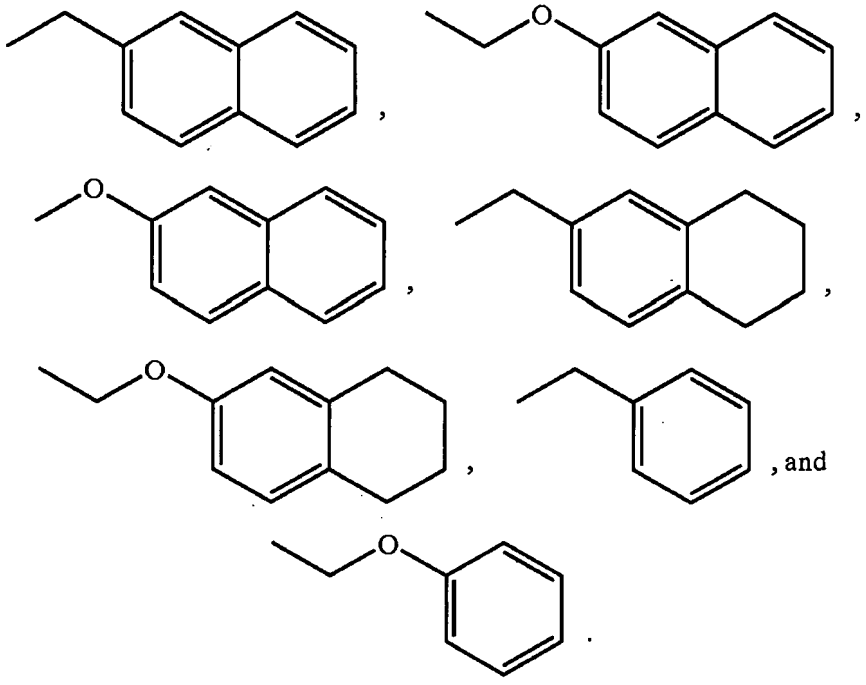
**y** is at each occurrence independently from 1 to 6.

Claim 2 (previously presented): The compound of claim 1 wherein J is a substituted or unsubstituted ring structure selected from the group consisting of

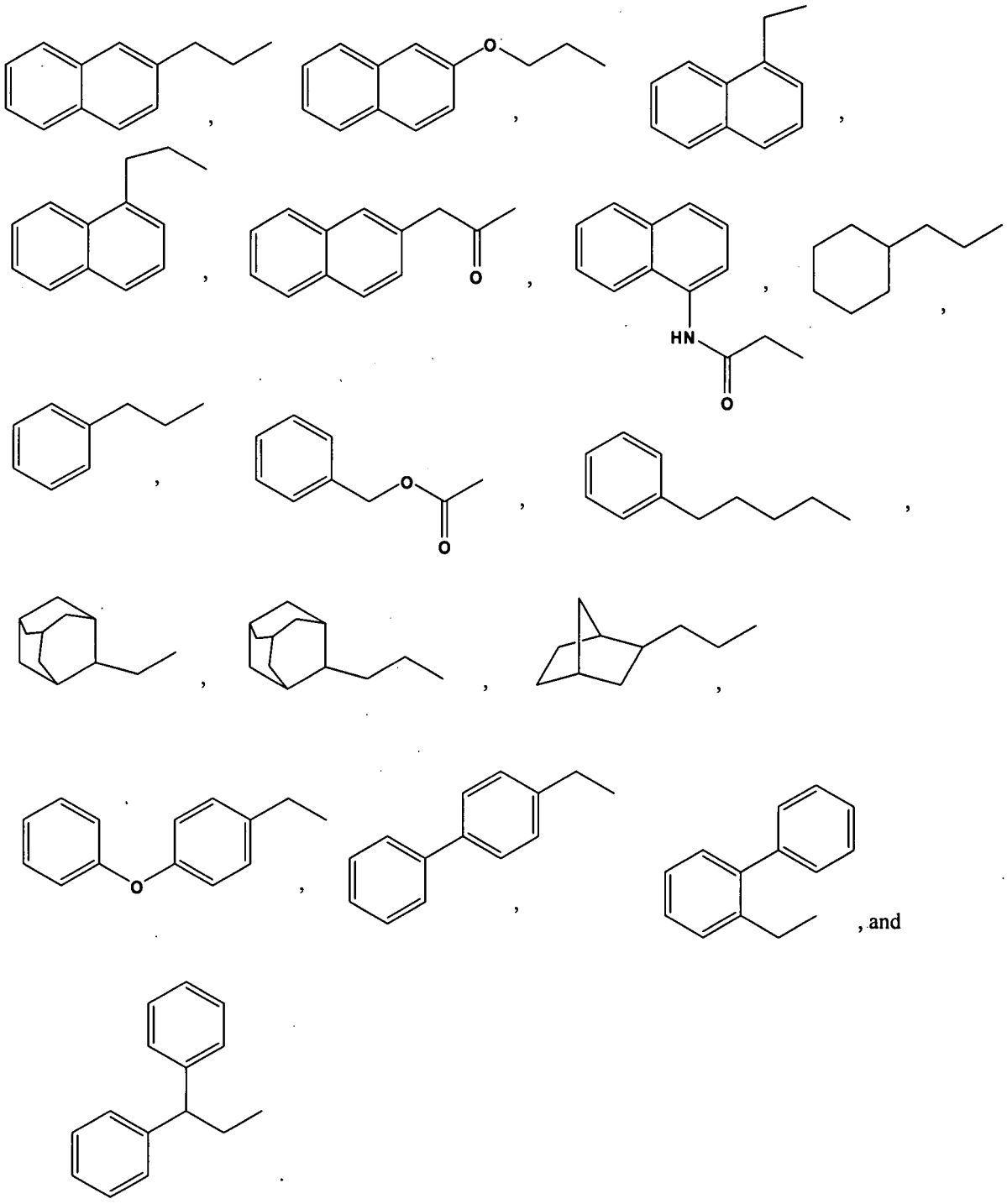



Claim 3 (currently amended): The compound of claim 1 wherein at least one ring of the group ~~comprising~~ J is substituted ~~functionalized~~ with one or more halogen, alkyl or aryl groups.

Claim 4 (original): The compound of claim 1 wherein $R_1$ is selected from the group consisting of

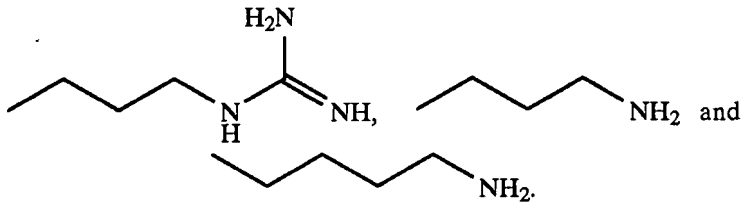


Claim 5 (previously presented): The compound of claim 1 wherein $R_1$ is selected from the group consisting of

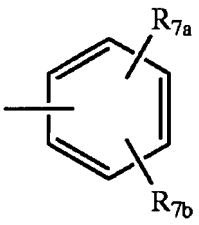


Claims 6-7 (cancelled).

Claim 8 (original): The compound of claim 1 wherein $R_2$ is selected from the group consisting of




Claim 9 (original): The compound of claim 1 where Q is




wherein $R_{7a}$ and $R_{7b}$ are optional ring substituents, and when one or both are present, are the same or different and independently hydroxyl, halogen, alkyl, or aryl groups attached directly or through an ether linkage.

Claim 10 (original): The compound of claim 9 wherein the alkyl group is $-CH_3$ or $-OCH_3$.

Claim 11 (original): The compound of claim 1 wherein $R_5$ or $R_6$ is an amine capping group selected from the group consisting of hexyl, hexanoyl, heptanoyl, acetyl, phenylacetyl, cyclohexylacetyl, naphthylacetyl, cinnamoyl, benzyl, benzoyl, cinnamoyl, 12-Ado, 7'-amino heptanoyl, 6-Ahx, Amc and 8-Aoc.

Claim 12 (original): The compound of claim 1 wherein $R_3$ is a D-amino acid with an aromatic carbocyclic ring selected from the group consisting of phenyl, substituted phenyl, naphthyl and substituted naphthyl.

Claim 13 (original): The compound of claim 1 wherein $R_3$ is a D-amino acid with an amine capping group and an aromatic carbocyclic ring selected from the group consisting of phenyl, substituted phenyl, naphthyl and substituted naphthyl.

Claim 14 (original): The compound of claim 1 wherein $R_3$ is a dipeptide consisting of a D-amino acid including an aromatic carbocyclic ring selected from the group consisting of phenyl, substituted phenyl, naphthyl and substituted naphthyl and a second amino acid residue, wherein the D-amino acid is bonded to the ring nitrogen.

Claim 15 (original): The compound of claim 1 wherein $R_3$ is a dipeptide consisting of a D-amino acid including an aromatic carbocyclic ring selected from the group consisting of phenyl, substituted phenyl, naphthyl and substituted naphthyl and a second amino acid residue with an amine capping group.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The compound of claim 12, 13, 14 or 15 wherein the ~~wherein $R_3$ comprises a~~ D-amino acid is selected from the group consisting of Phe, Phe(2-Cl), Phe(4-Cl), Phe(2,4-diCl), Phe(2,4-diF), Phe(3,4-diCl), Phe(4-$NO_2$), Phe(4-Me), Phe(4-Phenyl), HPhe, pF-Phe, Phe(4-Br), Phe(4-$CF_3$), Phe(3,4-diF), Phe(4-I), Phe(2-Cl, 4-Me), Phe(2-Me, 4-Cl), Phe(2-F, 4-Cl), Phe(2,4-diMe), Phe(2-Cl, 4$CF_3$), and Phe(3,4di-OMe).

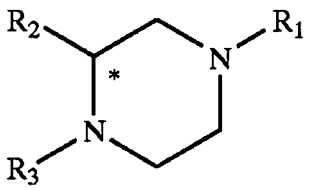
Claim 17 (currently amended): The compound of claim 12, 13, 14 or 15 wherein the ~~wherein $R_3$ comprises a~~ D-amino acid is selected from the group consisting of Pgl, Trp, Nal 1, Nal 2, Bip, Dip, Bpa, Ser(Bzl), Ser(2-Naphthyl), Ser(Phenyl), Ser(4-Cl-Phenyl), Ser(2-Cl-Phenyl), Ser(p-Cl-Phenyl), Lys(Z), Lys(Z-2'Br), Lys(Bz), Thr(Bzl), Tic, Tiq, Cys(Bzl), Tyr(2,6-DiCl-Bzl) and Tyr(Bzl).

Claim 18 (currently amended): The compound of claim 14 or 15 wherein the ~~1 wherein $R_3$ comprises a~~ second amino acid residue in the dipeptide is selected from the group of L-amino acids consisting of Abu, 2-Abz, 3-Abz, 4-Abz, Achc, Acpc, Aib, Amb, Arg(Tos), Asp(anilino), Asp(3-Cl-anilino), Asp(3,5-diCl-anilino), 11-Aun, AVA, Beta-hHyp(Bzl), Cha, Chg, Cmpi, Disc, Dpr(beta-Ala), GAA, GBZA, B-Gpa, GVA(Cl), His, hSer, Ser(Bzl), Tic, hHyp, Hyp(Bzl), Inp, 2-Naphthylacetyl, (Nlys)Gly, OcHx, Pip, 4-phenylPro, 5-phenylPro, Pyr, Sar, Tle, Tiq, Atc, Igl, Hyp(O-2-Naphthyl), Hyp(O-Phenyl), 2-Aic, Idc, 1-Aic, Beta-homoSer(Bzl), Ser(O-2-Naphthyl), Ser(O-Phenyl), Ser(O-4-Cl-Phenyl), Ser(O-2-Cl-Phenyl), Thr(Bzl), Tic, Beta-homoThr(Bzl), Thr(O-2-Naphthyl), Thr(O-Phenyl), Thr(O-4-Cl-Phenyl) and Thr(O-2-Cl-Phenyl), Nle, Leu, Ile, Val and Beta-Ala.

Claim 19 (currently amended): The compound of claim 13 or 15 wherein ~~1 wherein $R_3$ comprises an~~ the amine capping group is selected from the group consisting of hexyl, hexanoyl, heptanoyl, acetyl, phenylacetyl, cyclohexylacetyl, naphthylacetyl, cinnamoyl, benzyl, benzoyl, 7'-amino heptanoyl, 12-Ado, 6-Ahx, Amc, and 8-Aoc.

Claim 20 (currently amended): A compound having the structure:

(II)




or a stereoisomer or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein

**$R_1$** is $-L_1-J$;

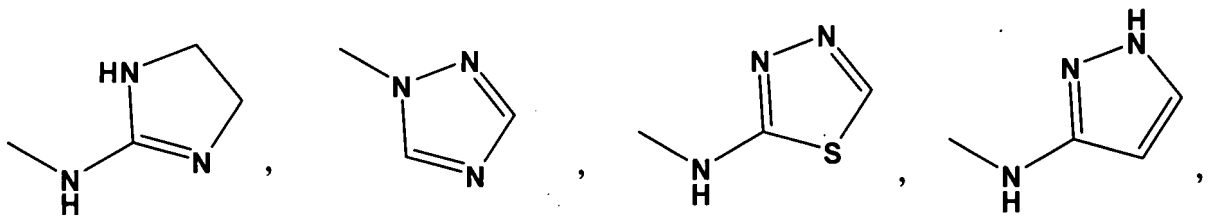
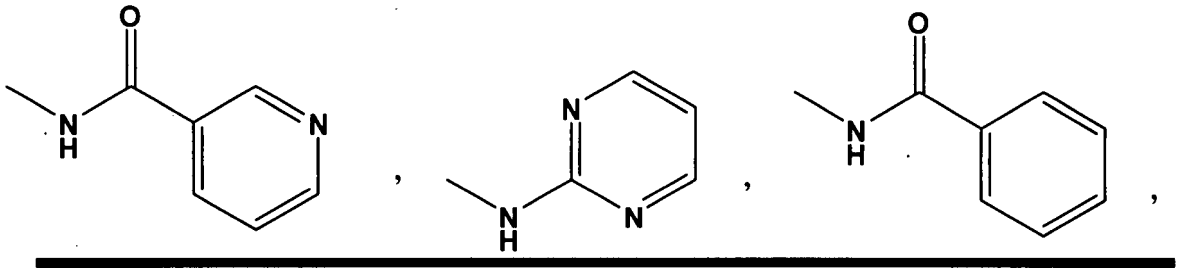
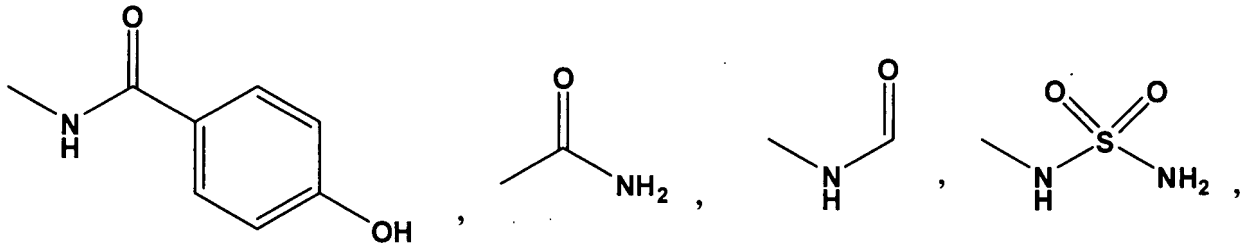
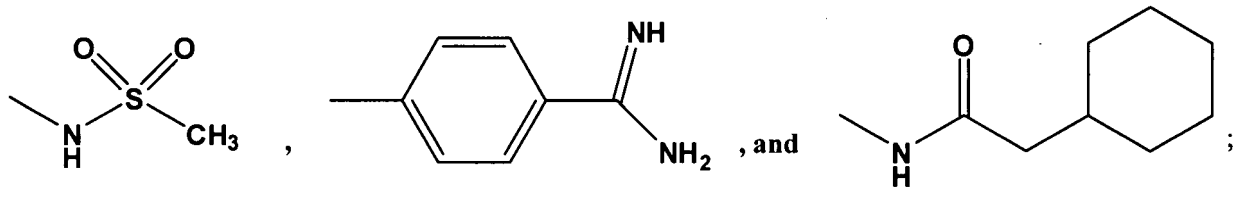
**$R_2$** is $(CH_2)_y-W$;

**$R_3$** is $-L_2-Q$;

**$L_1$** is a linker selected from the group consisting of $-(CH_2)_y-$, $-O-(CH_2)_y-$, $-O-$, $-NH-(CH_2)_y-$, $-(C=O)(CH_2)_y-$, $-(C=O)-O-(CH_2)_y-$, and $-CH_2(C=O)NH-$;

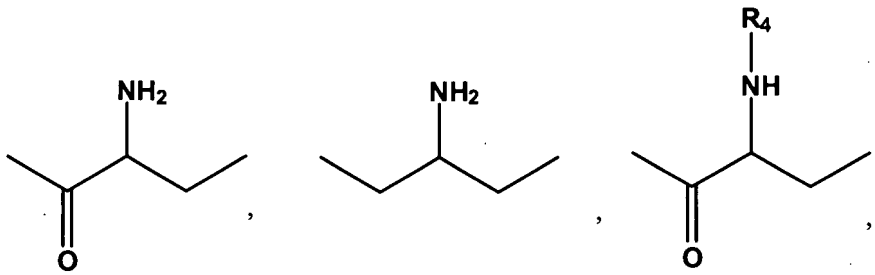
**J** is a ring structure selected from the group consisting of substituted or unsubstituted aromatic carbocyclic rings, substituted or unsubstituted non-aromatic carbocyclic rings, substituted or unsubstituted aromatic fused carbobicyclic ring groups, substituted or unsubstituted aromatic carbocyclic ring groups wherein the rings are joined by a bond or -O-, and substituted or unsubstituted aromatic fused heterobicyclic ring groups; wherein in each instance each ring in ring structure consists of ~~the rings comprise~~ 5 or 6 ring atoms;

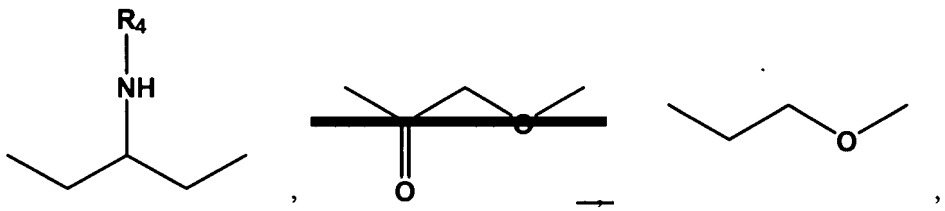
**W** is selected from the group consisting of $NH_2$, $NH(C=NH)NH_2$, $-NHCOCH_3$, $-CONHCH_3$, -NH(C=NH)NHMe, -NH(C=NH)NHEt, -NH(C=NH)NHPr, -NH(C=NH)NHPr-I, $-NH(C=NH)NH_2$, $-NH(C=O)OCH_3$, $-NH(C=O)CH_3$, $-NH(C=O)NH_2$, $-NH(C=O)NHCH_3$,

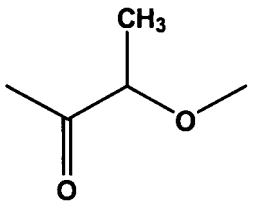





~~a heteroatom unit with at least one cationic center, hydrogen bond donor or hydrogen bond acceptor wherein at least one atom is N;~~

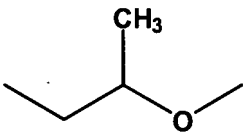
$L_2$ is a linker selected from the group consisting of




, and




;

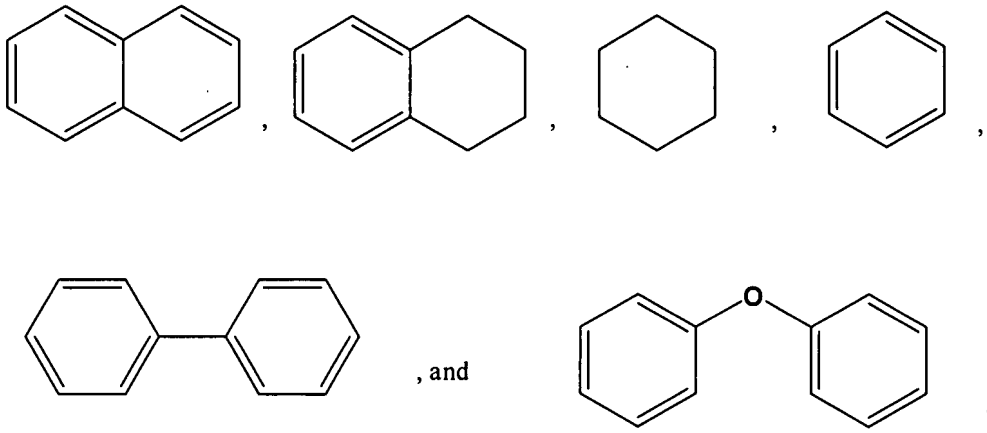
**Q** is an aromatic carbocyclic ring selected from the group consisting of phenyl, substituted phenyl, naphthyl and substituted naphthyl;

$\mathbf{R_4}$ is H, $-R_5$ or $-R_5-R_6$;

$\mathbf{R_5}$ is an amino acid residue or an amine capping group, provided that if $R_6$ is present, $R_5$ is an amino acid residue;

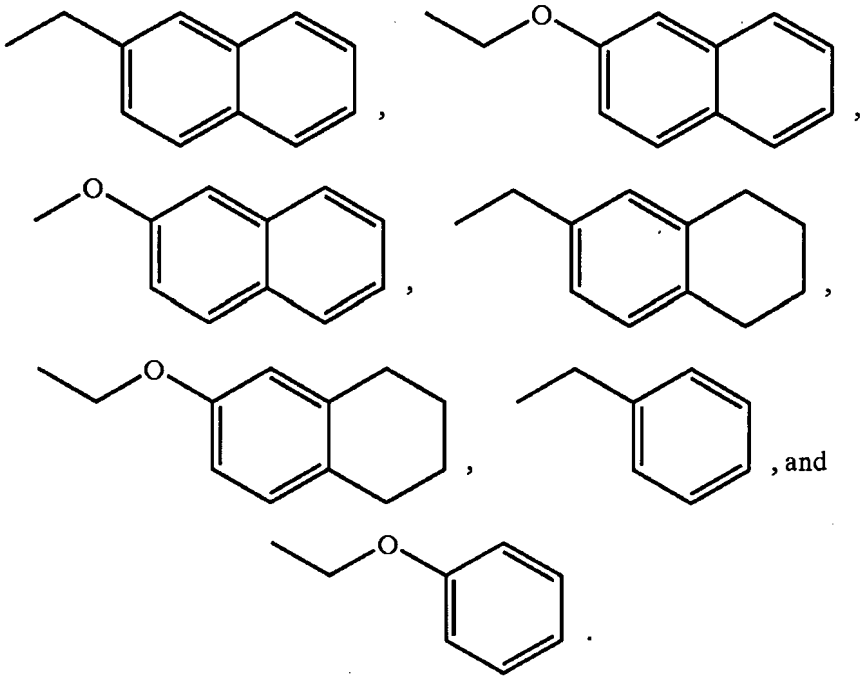
$\mathbf{R_6}$ is H or an amine capping group; and y is at each occurrence independently from 1 to 6; wherein the carbon atom marked with an asterisk can have any stereochemical configuration.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The compound of claim 20 wherein J is a substituted or unsubstituted ring structure selected from the group consisting of

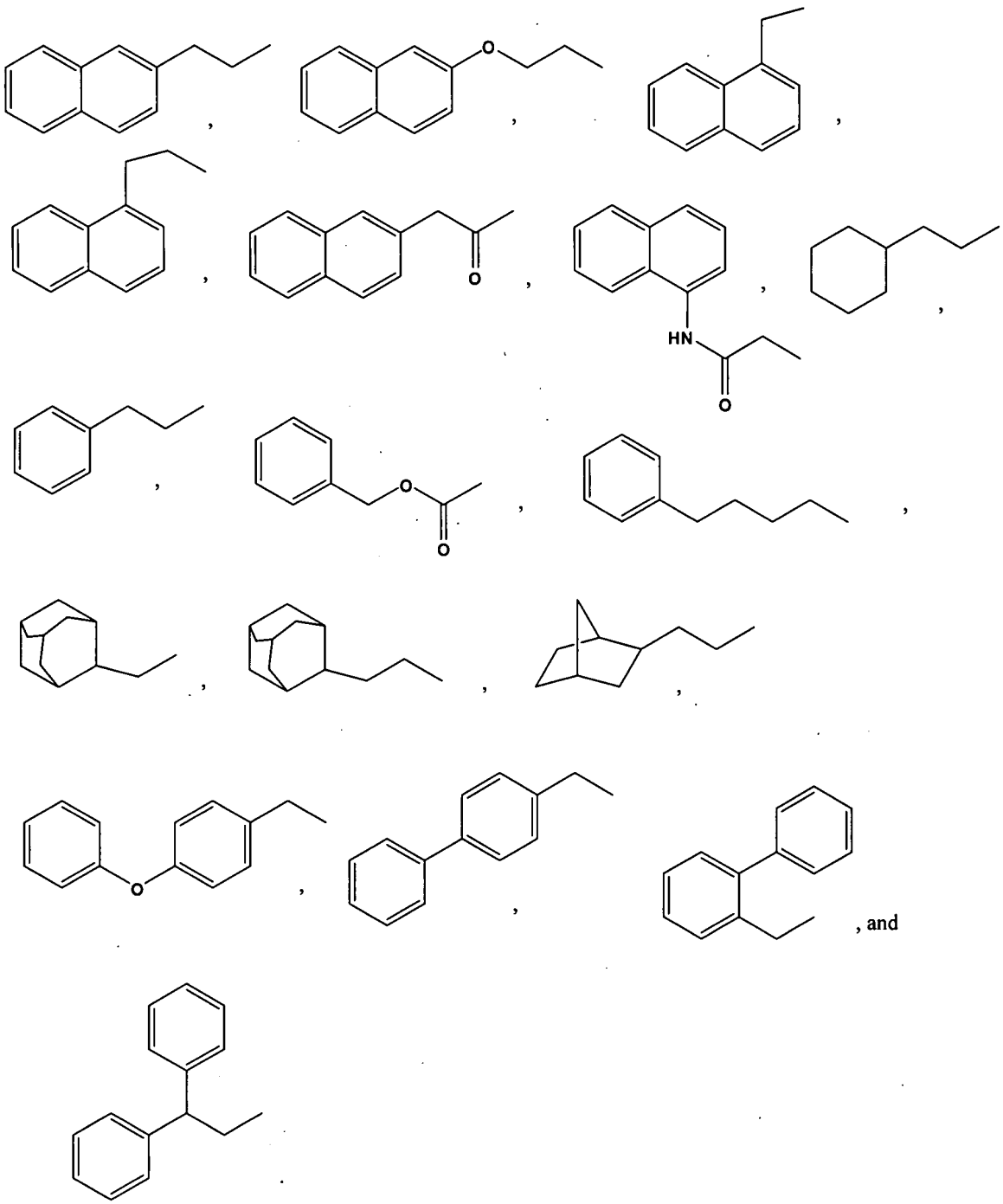


Claim 22 (currently amended): The compound of claim 20 wherein at least one ring of the group ~~comprising~~ J is substituted ~~functionalized~~ with one or more halogen, alkyl or aryl groups.

Claim 23 (original): The compound of claim 20 wherein $R_1$ is selected from the group consisting of

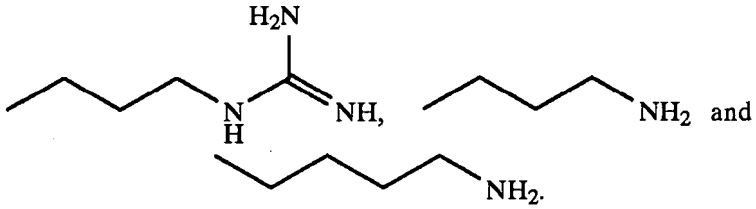


Claim 24 (previously presented): The compound of claim 20 wherein $R_1$ is selected from the group consisting of

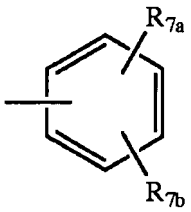



Claims 25-26 (cancelled).

Claim 27 (original): The compound of claim 20 wherein $R_2$ is selected from the group consisting of




Claim 28 (original): The compound of claim 20 where Q is




wherein $R_{7a}$ and $R_{7b}$ are optional ring substituents, and when one or both are present, are the same or different and independently hydroxyl, halogen, alkyl, or aryl groups attached directly or through an ether linkage.

Claim 29 (original): The compound of claim 28 wherein the alkyl group is $-CH_3$ or $-OCH_3$.

Claim 30 (original): The compound of claim 20 wherein $R_5$ or $R_6$ is an amine capping group selected from the group consisting of hexyl, hexanoyl, heptanoyl, acetyl, phenylacetyl, cyclohexylacetyl, naphthylacetyl, cinnamoyl, benzyl, benzoyl, cinnamoyl, 12-Ado, 7'-amino heptanoyl, 6-Ahx, Amc and 8-Aoc.

Claim 31 (original): The compound of claim 20 wherein $R_3$ is a D-amino acid with an aromatic carbocyclic ring selected from the group consisting of phenyl, substituted phenyl, naphthyl and substituted naphthyl.

Claim 32 (original): The compound of claim 20 wherein $R_3$ is a D-amino acid with an amine capping group and an aromatic carbocyclic ring selected from the group consisting of phenyl, substituted phenyl, naphthyl and substituted naphthyl.

Claim 33 (original): The compound of claim 20 wherein $R_3$ is a dipeptide consisting of a D-amino acid including an aromatic carbocyclic ring selected from the group consisting of phenyl, substituted phenyl, naphthyl and substituted naphthyl and a second amino acid residue, wherein the D-amino acid is bonded to the ring nitrogen.

Claim 34 (original): The compound of claim 20 wherein $R_3$ is a dipeptide consisting of a D-amino acid including an aromatic carbocyclic ring selected from the group consisting of phenyl, substituted phenyl, naphthyl and substituted naphthyl and a second amino acid residue with an amine capping group.

Claim 35 (currently amended): The compound of claim 31, 32, 33 or 34 wherein the ~~20 wherein $R_3$ comprises a~~ D-amino acid is selected from the group consisting of Phe, Phe(2-Cl), Phe(4-Cl), Phe(2,4-diCl), Phe(2,4-diF), Phe(3,4-diCl), Phe(4-$NO_2$), Phe(4-Me), Phe(4-Phenyl), HPhe, pF-Phe, Phe(4-Br), Phe(4-$CF_3$), Phe(3,4-diF), Phe(4-I), Phe(2-Cl, 4-Me), Phe(2-Me, 4Cl), Phe(2-F, 4Cl), Phe(2,4-diMe), Phe(2-Cl, 4-$CF_3$), and Phe(3,4di-OMe).

Claim 36 (currently amended): The compound of claim 31, 32, 33 or 34 wherein the ~~20 wherein $R_3$ comprises a~~ D-amino acid is selected from the group consisting of Pgl, Trp, Nal 1, Nal 2, Bip, Dip, Bpa, Ser(Bzl), Ser(2-Naphthyl), Ser(Phenyl), Ser(4-Cl-Phenyl), Ser(2-Cl-Phenyl), Ser(p-Cl-Phenyl), Lys(Z), Lys(Z-2'Br), Lys(Bz), Thr(Bzl), Tic, Tiq, Cys(Bzl), Tyr(2,6-DiCl-Bzl) and Tyr(Bzl).

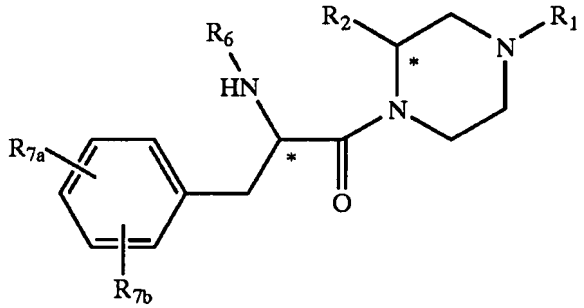
Claim 37 (currently amended): The compound of claim 33 or 34 wherein the ~~20 wherein $R_3$ comprises a~~ second amino acid residue is selected from the group of L-amino acids consisting of Abu, 2-Abz, 3-Abz, 4-Abz, Achc, Acpc, Aib, Amb, Arg(Tos), Asp(anilino), Asp(3-Cl-

anilino), Asp(3,5-diCl-anilino), 11-Aun, AVA, Beta-hHyp(Bzl), Cha, Chg, Cmpi, Disc, Dpr(beta-Ala), GAA, GBzA, B-Gpa, GVA(Cl), His, hSer, Ser(Bzl), Tic, hHyp, Hyp(Bzl), Inp, 2-Naphthylacetyl, (Nlys)Gly, OcHx, Pip, 4-phenylPro, 5-phenylPro, Pyr, Sar, Tle, Tiq, Atc, Igl, Hyp(O-2-Naphthyl), Hyp(O-Phenyl), 2-Aic, Idc, 1-Aic, Beta-homoSer(Bzl), Ser(O-2-Naphthyl), Ser(O-Phenyl), Ser(O-4-Cl-Phenyl), Ser(O-2-Cl-Phenyl), Thr(Bzl), Tic, Beta-homoThr(Bzl), Thr(O-2-Naphthyl), Thr(O-Phenyl), Thr(O-4-Cl-Phenyl) and Thr(O-2-Cl-Phenyl), Nle, Leu, Ile, Val and Beta-Ala.

Claim 38 (currently amended): The compound of claim 32 or 34 wherein the ~~20 wherein $R_3$ comprises an~~ amine capping group selected from the group consisting of hexyl, hexanoyl, heptanoyl, acetyl, phenylacetyl, cyclohexylacetyl, naphthylacetyl, cinnamoyl, benzyl, benzoyl, 7'-amino heptanoyl, 12-Ado, 6-Ahx, Amc, and 8-Aoc.

Claim 39 (currently amended): A compound having the structure:

(III)




or a stereoisomer or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein

**$R_1$** is $-L_1-J$;

**$R_2$** is $(CH_2)_y-W$;

**$R_6$** is H or an amine capping group;

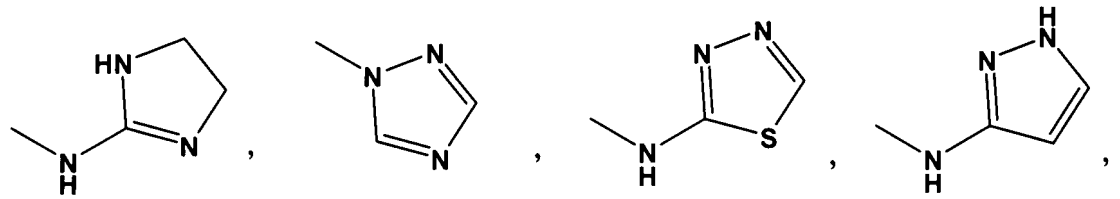
**$R_{7a}$** and **$R_{7b}$** are optional ring substituents, and when one or both are present, are the same or different and independently hydroxyl, halogen, alkyl, or aryl groups attached directly or through an ether linkage;

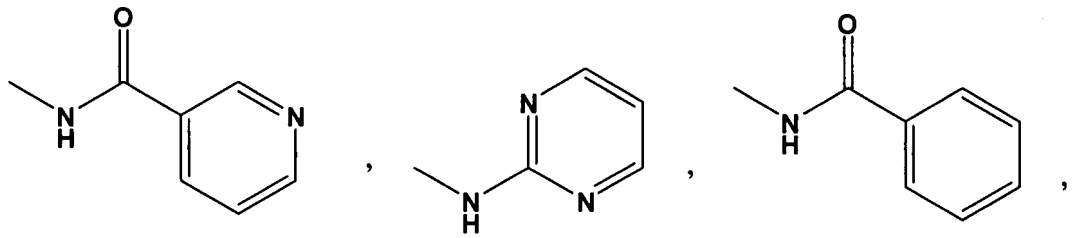
**$L_1$** is a linker selected from the group consisting of $-(CH_2)_y-$, $-O-(CH_2)_y-$, -O-,

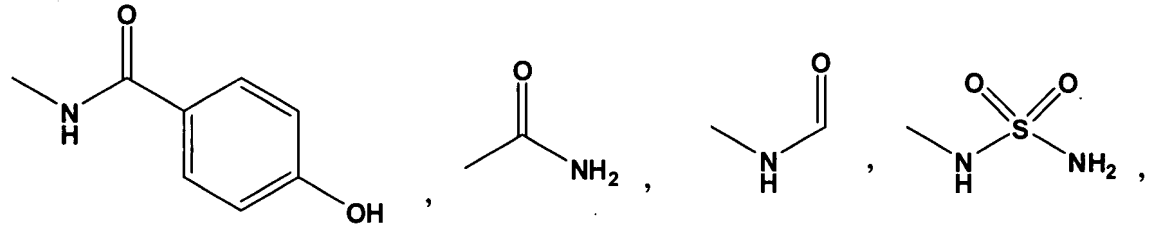
$-NH-(CH_2)_y-$, $-(C=O)(CH_2)_y-$, $-(C=O)-O-(CH_2)_y-$, and $-CH_2(C=O)NH-$;

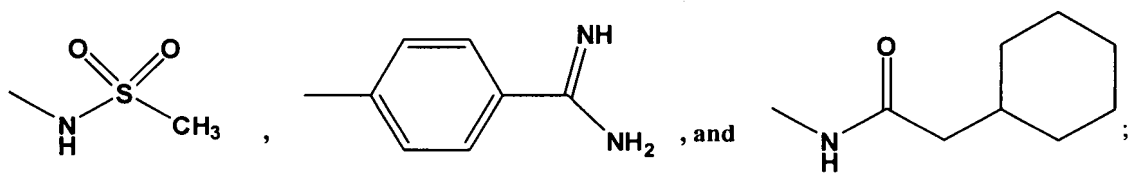
**J** is a ring structure selected from the group consisting of substituted or unsubstituted aromatic carbocyclic rings, substituted or unsubstituted non-aromatic carbocyclic rings, substituted or unsubstituted aromatic fused carbobicyclic ring groups, substituted or unsubstituted aromatic carbocyclic ring groups wherein the rings are joined by a bond or -O-, and substituted or unsubstituted aromatic fused heterobicyclic ring groups; wherein in each instance each ring in the ring structure consists of ~~the rings comprise~~ 5 or 6 ring atoms;

**W** is selected from the group consisting of $NH_2$, $NH(C=NH)NH_2$, $-NHCOCH_3$, $-CONHCH_3$, $-NH(C=NH)NHMe$, $-NH(C=NH)NHEt$, $-NH(C=NH)NHPr$, $-NH(C=NH)NHPr\text{-}I$, $-NH(C=NH)NH_2$, $-NH(C=O)OCH_3$, $-NH(C=O)CH_3$, $-NH(C=O)NH_2$, $-NH(C=O)NHCH_3$,







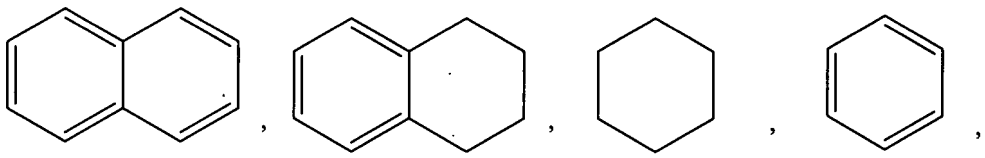


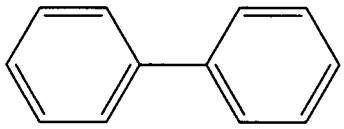
~~a heteroatom unit with at least one cationic center, hydrogen bond donor or hydrogen bond acceptor wherein at least one atom is N;~~ and

**y** is at each occurrence independently from 1 to 6;

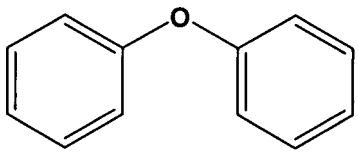
wherein the carbon atoms marked with an asterisk can have any stereochemical configuration.

Claim 40 (previously presented): The compound of claim 39 wherein J is a substituted or unsubstituted ring structure selected from the group consisting of



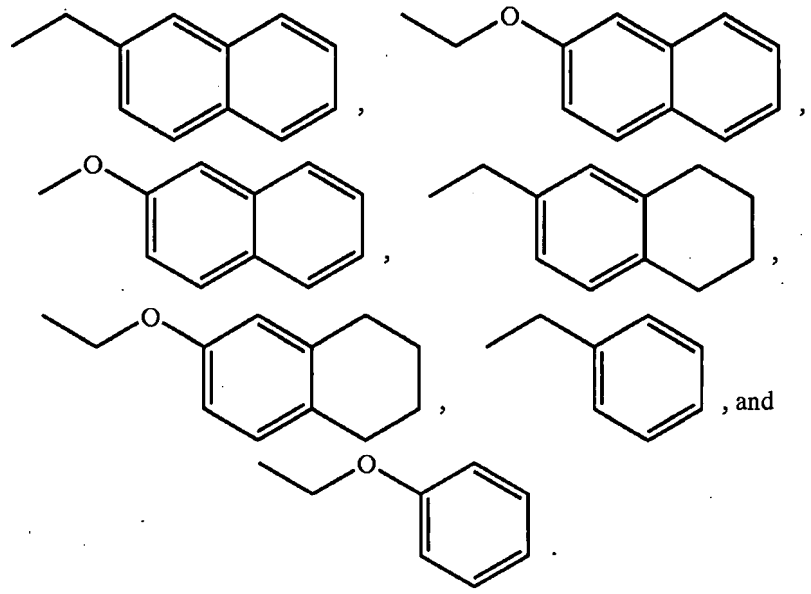


, and

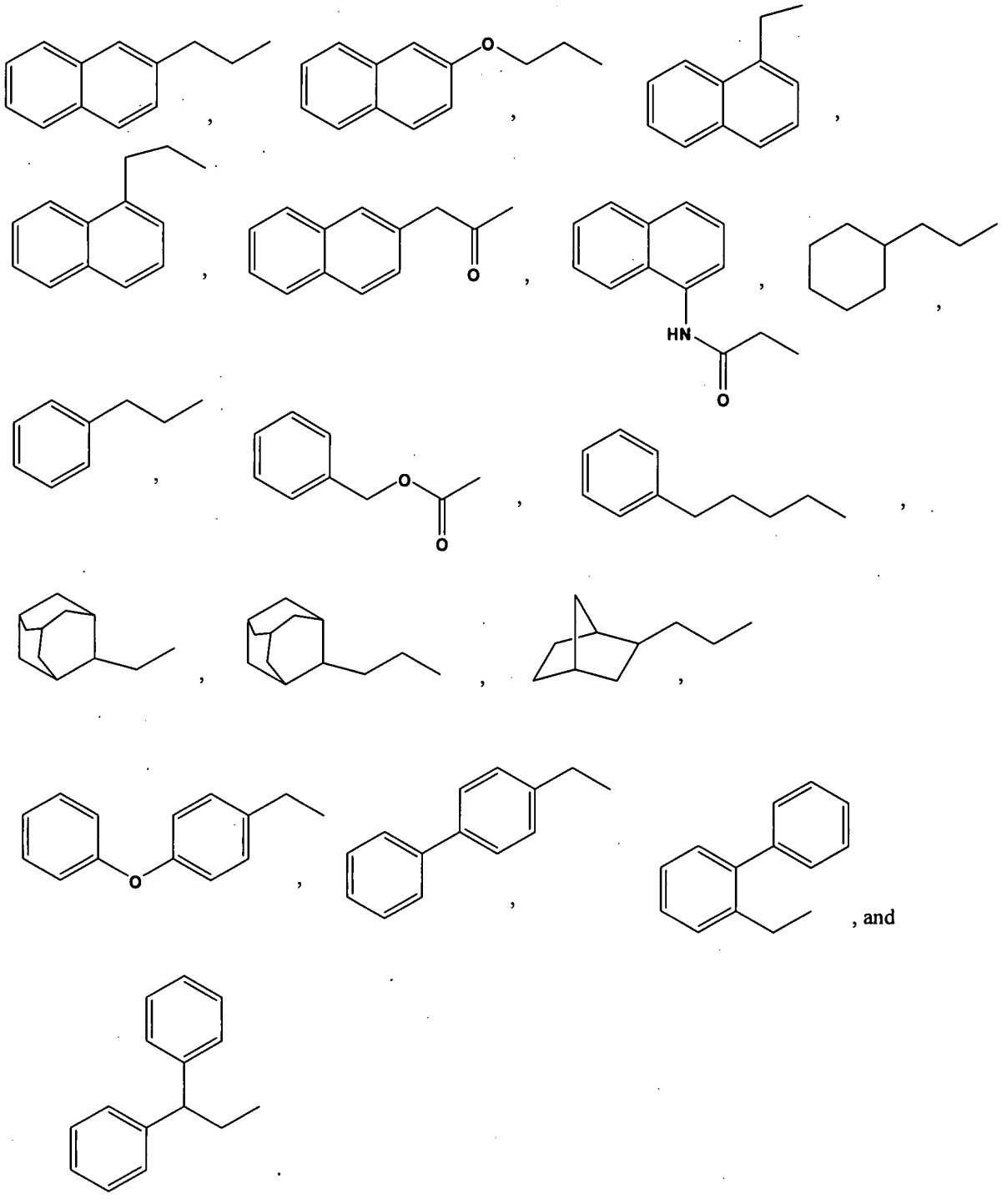



Claim 41 (currently amended): The compound of claim 39 wherein at least one ring of the group ~~comprising~~ J is substituted ~~functionalized~~ with one or more halogen, alkyl or aryl groups.

Claim 42 (original): The compound of claim 39 wherein $R_1$ is selected from the group consisting of

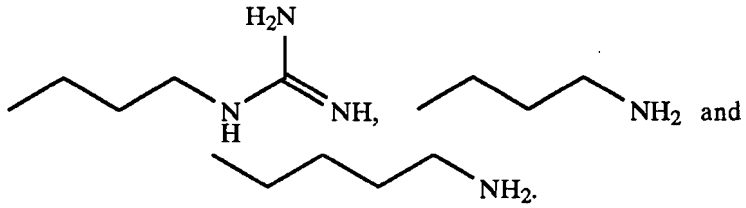


Claim 43 (original): The compound of claim 39 wherein $R_1$ is selected from the group consisting of



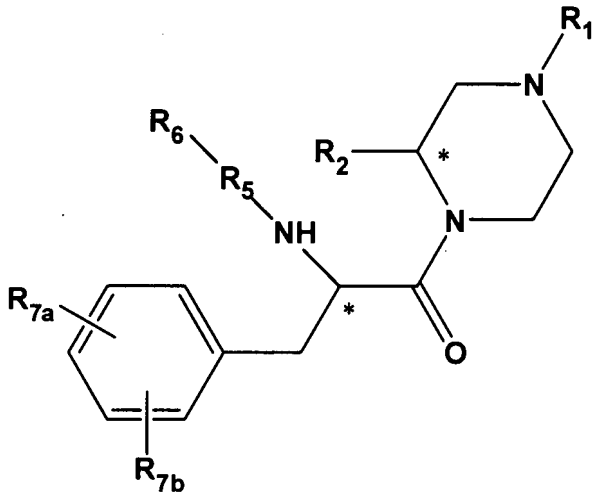

Claims 44-45 (cancelled).

Claim 46 (original): The compound of claim 39 wherein $R_2$ is selected from the group consisting of




Claim 47 (original): The compound of claim 39 wherein $R_6$ is an amine capping group selected from the group consisting of hexyl, hexanoyl, heptanoyl, acetyl, phenylacetyl, cyclohexylacetyl, naphthylacetyl, cinnamoyl, benzyl, benzoyl, cinnamoyl, 12-Ado, 7'-amino heptanoyl, 6-Ahx, Amc and 8-Aoc.

Claim 48 (currently amended): A compound having the structure:




(IV)

or a stereoisomer or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein

**$R_1$** is $-L_1-J$;

**$R_2$** is $(CH_2)_y-W$;

**$R_5$** is an amino acid residue;

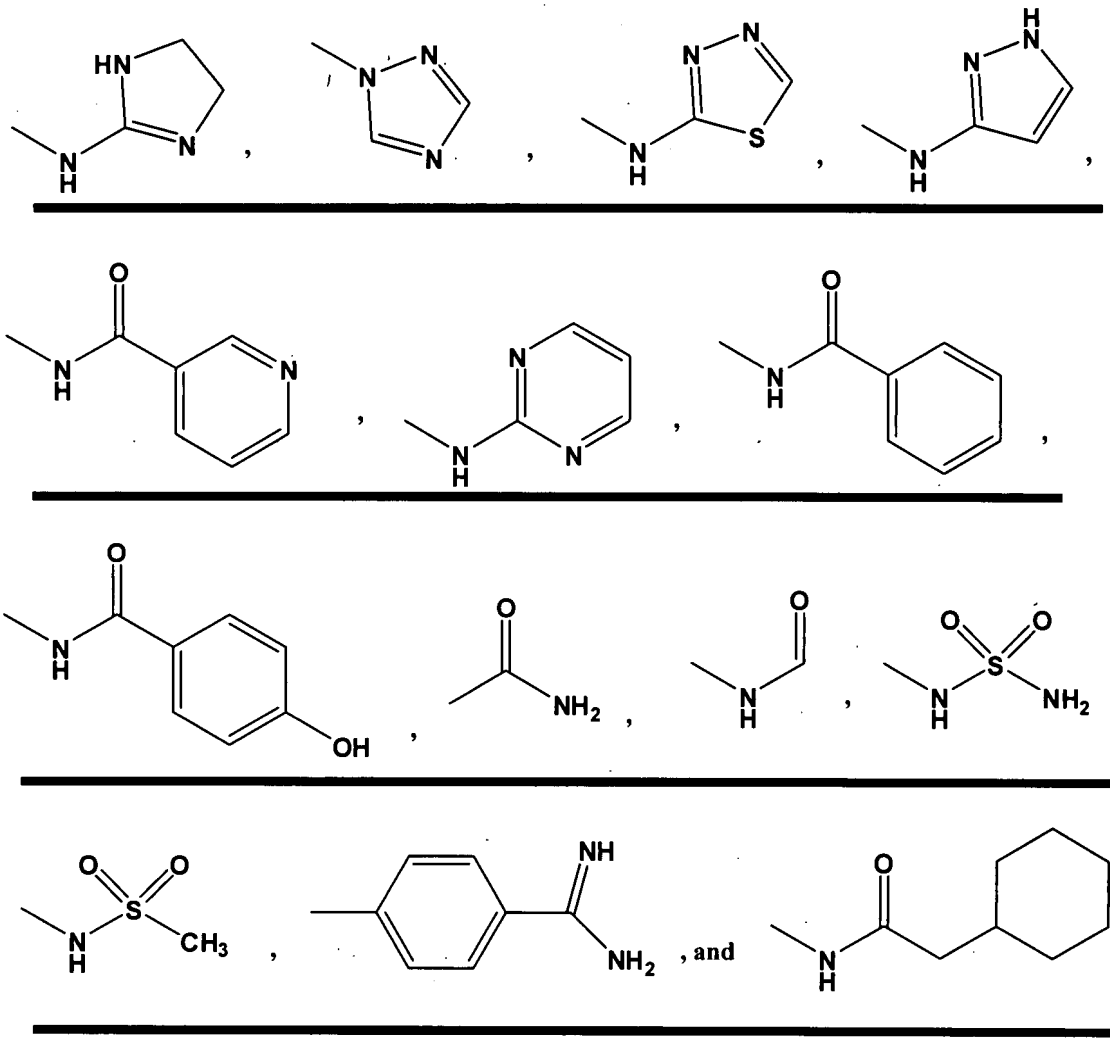
**$R_6$** is H or an amine capping group;

$\mathbf{R_{7a}}$ and $\mathbf{R_{7b}}$ are optional ring substituents, and when one or both are present, are the same or different and independently hydroxyl, halogen, alkyl, or aryl groups attached directly or through an ether linkage;

$\mathbf{L_1}$ is a linker selected from the group consisting of $-(CH_2)_y-$, $-O-(CH_2)_y-$, $-O-$, $-NH-(CH_2)_y-$, $-(C=O)(CH_2)_y-$, $-(C=O)-O-(CH_2)_y$, and $-CH_2(C=O)NH-$;

**J** is a ring structure selected from the group consisting of substituted or unsubstituted aromatic carbocyclic rings, substituted or unsubstituted non-aromatic carbocyclic rings, substituted or unsubstituted aromatic fused carbobicyclic ring groups, substituted or unsubstituted aromatic carbocyclic ring groups wherein the rings are joined by a bond or -O-, and substituted or unsubstituted aromatic fused heterobicyclic ring groups; wherein in each instance each ring in the ring structure consists of ~~the rings comprise~~ 5 or 6 ring atoms;

**W** is selected from the group consisting of $NH_2$, $NH(C=NH)NH_2$, $-NHCOCH_3$, $-CONHCH_3$, $-NH(C=NH)NHMe$, $-NH(C=NH)NHEt$, $-NH(C=NH)NHPr$, $-NH(C=NH)NHPr-I$, $-NH(C=NH)NH_2$, $-NH(C=O)OCH_3$, $-NH(C=O)CH_3$, $-NH(C=O)NH_2$, $-NH(C=O)NHCH_3$,

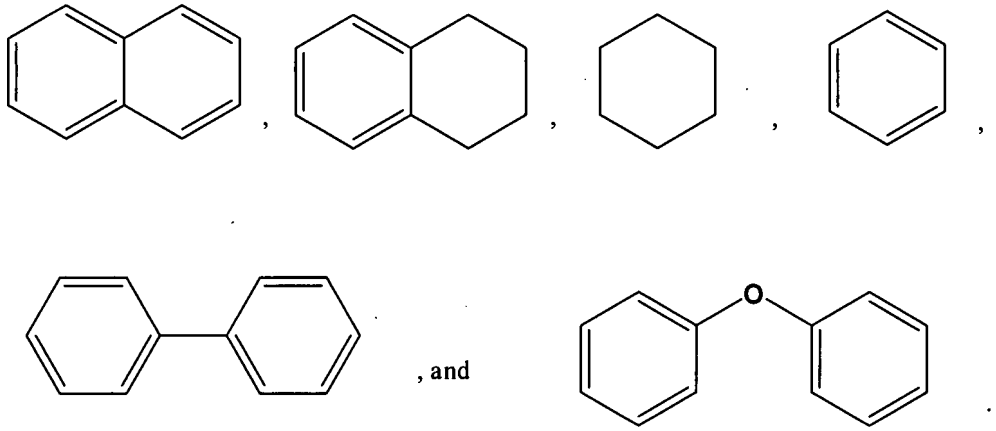


~~a heteroatom unit with at least one cationic center, hydrogen bond donor or hydrogen bond acceptor wherein at least one atom is N;~~ and

**y** is at each occurrence independently from 1 to 6;

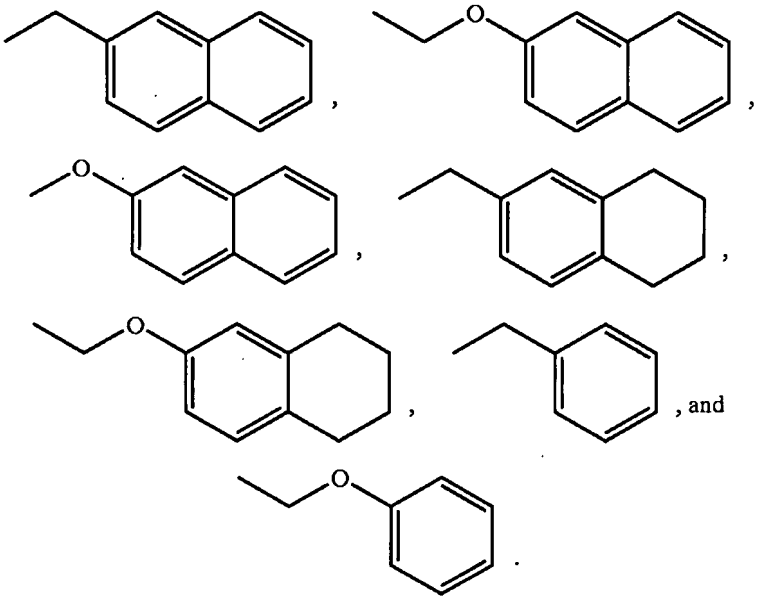
wherein the carbon atoms marked with an asterisk can have any stereochemical configuration.

Claim 49 (previously presented): The compound of claim 48 wherein J is a substituted or unsubstituted ring structure selected from the group consisting of

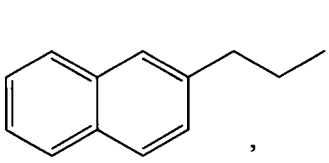



Claim 50 (currently amended): The compound of claim 48 wherein at least one ring of the group ~~comprising~~ J is substituted ~~functionalized~~ with one or more halogen, alkyl or aryl groups.

Claim 51 (original): The compound of claim 48 wherein $R_1$ is selected from the group consisting of




Claim 52 (original): The compound of claim 48 wherein $R_1$ is selected from the group consisting of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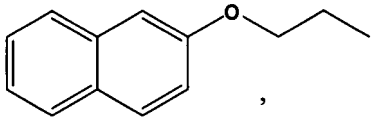
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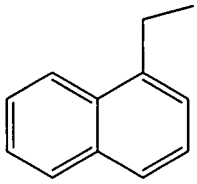
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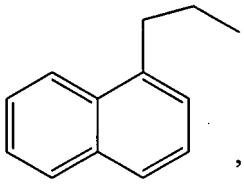
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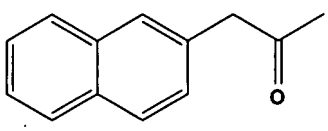
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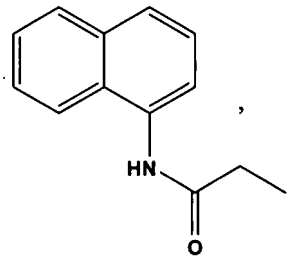
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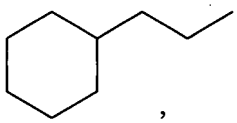
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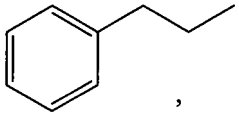
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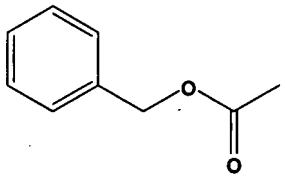
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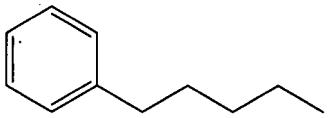
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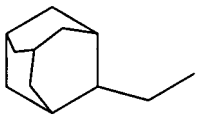
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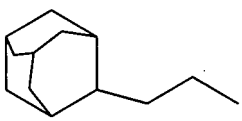
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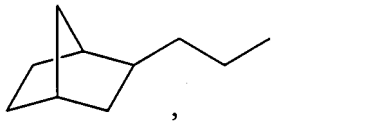
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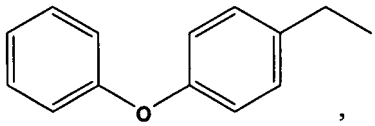
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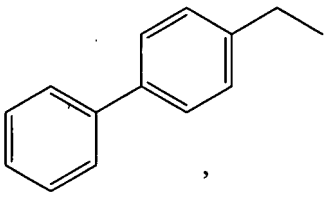
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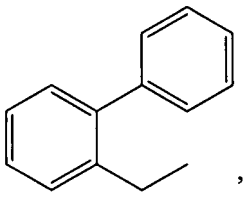
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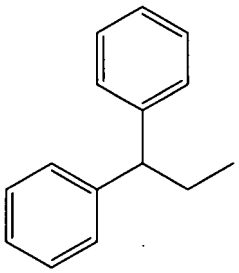
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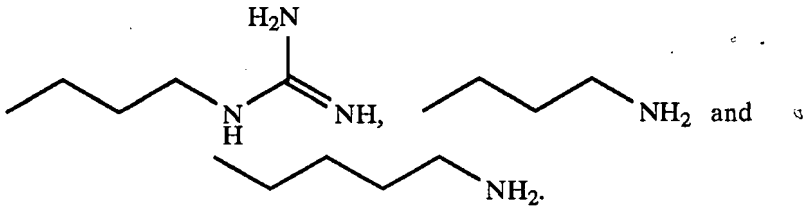
Claims 53-54 (cancelled).

Claim 55 (original): The compound of claim 48 wherein $R_2$ is selected from the group consisting of




Claim 56 (original): The compound of claim 48 wherein $R_6$ is an amine capping group selected from the group consisting of hexyl, hexanoyl, heptanoyl, acetyl, phenylacetyl, cyclohexylacetyl, naphthylacetyl, cinnamoyl, benzyl, benzoyl, cinnamoyl, 12-Ado, 7'-amino heptanoyl, 6-Ahx, Amc and 8-Aoc.

Claim 57 (currently amended): The compound of claim 48 wherein $R_5$ is ~~a second amino acid residue~~ selected from the group of L-amino acids consisting of Abu, 2-Abz, 3-Abz, 4-Abz, Achc, Acpc, Aib, Amb, Arg(Tos), Asp(anilino), Asp(3-Cl-anilino), Asp(3,5-diCl-anilino), 11-Aun, AVA, Beta-hHyp(Bzl), Cha, Chg, Cmpi, Disc, Dpr(beta-Ala), GAA, GBZA, B-Gpa, GVA(Cl), His, hSer, Ser(Bzl), Tic, hHyp, Hyp(Bzl), Inp, 2-Naphthylacetyl, (Nlys)Gly, OcHx, Pip, 4-phenylPro, 5-phenylPro, Pyr, Sar, Tle, Tiq, Atc, Igl, Hyp(O-2-Naphthyl), Hyp(O-Phenyl), 2-Aic, Idc, 1-Aic, Beta-homoSer(Bzl), Ser(O-2-Naphthyl), Ser(O-Phenyl), Ser(O-4-Cl-Phenyl), Ser(O-2-Cl-Phenyl), Thr(Bzl), Tic, Beta-homoThr(Bzl), Thr(O-2-Naphthyl), Thr(O-Phenyl), Thr(O-4-Cl-Phenyl) and Thr(O-2-Cl-Phenyl), Nle, Leu, Ile, Val and Beta-Ala.

Claim 58 (currently amended): A composition comprising a compound of any <u>one of claims 1, 20, 39 and 48</u> ~~of any of the foregoing structure~~ in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 59 (withdrawn): A method for altering a disorder or condition associated with the activity of a melanocortin receptor, comprising administering to a patient a therapeutically effective amount of the composition of claim 58.

Claim 60 (withdrawn): The method of claim 59 wherein the disorder or condition is an eating disorder.

Claim 61 (withdrawn): The method of claim 60 wherein the eating disorder is cachexia.

Claim 62 (withdrawn): The method of claim 60 wherein the eating disorder is obesity and associated impairment of energy homeostasis.

Claim 63 (withdrawn): The method of claim 59 wherein the disorder or condition is sexual dysfunction.

Claim 64 (withdrawn): The method of claim 63 wherein the sexual dysfunction is erectile dysfunction.

Claim 65 (withdrawn): The method of claim 63 wherein the sexual dysfunction is female sexual dysfunction.